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of Bulletins, each one containing a brief discussion of some meteorological data of particular interest. So far three Bulletins have been issued, the successive subjects being as follows: No. 1, *The Highest Kite Ascensions in 1897*; No. 2, *Examples of the Diurnal and Cyclonic Changes in Temperature and Relative Humidity at Different Heights in the Free Air*; No. 3, *The Storm of January 31-February 1, 1898*. Each Bulletin is of 4to size, consists of 4 pages, and is illustrated by means of temperature, pressure and other curves.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Anales de la Oficina Meteorologica Argentina.
Buenos Aires, 1897. 4to. Pp. 502.

Contains full meteorological tables for the Isla de los Estados (Staten Island), a most interesting station between Lats. 54° and 55° S., off the southeastern extremity of South America.

Weather Forecasting and Weather Types on the North Pacific Slope. B. S. PAGUE and S. M. BLANDFORD. Portland, Ore., 1897. 8vo. Pp. 29. Charts 5.

An excellent pamphlet, along lines which might profitably be followed by other local forecast officials in different parts of the country. We need more study and more illustration of the living weather types that go to make up climate, and rather less time spent on the tabulation of climatic data.

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CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

THE HUMAN CRANIAL NORM.

IN the *Correspondenz-blatt* of the German Anthropological Society for December last the distinguished anthropologist, Professor Ranke, has a suggestive article on the individual variations of the skull form, in which he maintains several striking theses.

Thus he argues that the highest cranial form, that of man, is the universal embry-

onic norm from which the skulls of all the mammalia develop. Again, in following the variations of each individual skull, we find that they represent in turn the cranial forms which have been held characteristic of all the various races of man. Further, every skull at the time of birth is orthognathic, and each has a tendency to become more and more prognathic. This is observable in the highest as well as the lowest races, though in the former it is more frequently checked by anatomical correlations.

KOREAN ETHNOGRAPHY.

Now that the affairs of Korea are served up daily almost in our newspapers, the manners and customs of that country deserve to interest us. One of the most pleasant and yet completest accounts of them was written about a year ago by Professor Edward S. Morse and published in *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly* for May, 1897 (and reprint), under the title 'Korean Interviews.'

In the space of sixteen pages he describes the family relations, education, marriage, customs, religions, burials, usages, festivals, arts, games, etc. The conclusion at which one arrives is that the sooner the present government, laws, customs and religions are wiped out of existence the better it will be for the Korean people, whether this is accomplished by the Russians or the Japanese.

TRIBES ENCOUNTERED BY CORTES.

THE location of the first battlefield of Cortes in the New World, that called 'Cintla,' and the ethnic affinities of the tribes he then encountered, have been subjects of varied opinion by M. Charnay, Orozco y Berra and other writers. In an article in the *American Antiquarian* for September, 1896, I attempted to define with precision the geographical spot and the tribe he there encountered. More recently and without a knowledge of my investigations

Don José N. Rovirosa, whose essay on the proper names of Tabasco has made his name known to students, submitted the questions involved to a rigorous examination. It is gratifying to say that in all essential points he reaches conclusions identical with my own, and shows the errors into which M. Charnay was led. Rovirosa's work is entitled ' *Ensayo Histórico sobre el Río Grijalva* ' (Mexico, 1897).

THE CRIMINOLOGY OF MINORS.

THE *Centralblatt für Anthropologie* (Heft I., 1898) has an appreciative notice of a large work by Dr. Ferriani on the criminology of minors. It is based on the records of 2,000 cases and is written in a scientific spirit. Few topics in criminal anthropology merit so close attention as the sources of crime in juvenile offenders. The value of steady employment is shown by the fact that out of the above total 1,112 were idlers. Illegitimate birth, poverty, neglect and evil social surroundings explain the majority of the cases. The prevailing crime was theft, being 1,182 of the whole. Nearly all the males were onanists and the females profligates. The evil influence of criminal association is urgently dwelt upon, and the writer recommends farm colonies under active supervision as the best protection. It is to be hoped that the principal chapters of this book will be translated.

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A SENATORIAL DOCUMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF CHOLERA.

IN times of national excitement unballasted minds take the opportunity of floating their airy nothings into public notice. When pestilence invades the country all sorts of silly propositions find place in print, or may be formally transmitted for the consideration of the highest officials. We understand that at the present time every mail brings to the departments at Washington, D. C., literary curiosities in the way of advice and offers of service in the event of war. Some of these are dictated purely by patriotism, but many are evidently the offspring of a desire for personal emolument. One communication, which we have seen, explains how the army may, for a consideration, have the benefit of the writer's 'Blood Purifier and Lineament' that our troops may no longer suffer from 'cholera, diarrhe, bloody flux, toothache, scroffalo or cholera infantum.' Such